

CITY OF HAYWARD
AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE 04/24/01
AGENDA ITEM 4
WORK SESSION ITEM

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: City Manager
SUBJECT: Appropriation of Funds to Respond to Increase in Gang Activity

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council approve the attached resolution appropriating \$150,000 to respond to increase in gang activity.

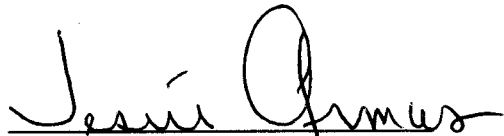
BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

With your concurrence, at the March 20 worksession staff was asked to return to you with a plan to respond to the increase in gang activity in Hayward. At that time, staff indicated the plan would focus both on enforcement and prevention efforts.

The attached report from the Police Chief outlines a multifaceted response to this serious and critical issue. In addition to the approach described in the Chief's report, an additional element is proposed for your consideration. Specifically, over the last few weeks, City staff has been meeting with our counterparts from HARD and HUSD to develop a program of activities that could be offered to our youth this summer. Based on these discussions, and recognizing that many of the gang problems involve young people in the age group that attends middle schools, it is suggested the activities be offered at Chavez and Winton Middle Schools. These sites were selected to allow for geographic distribution of services and because some of the elementary schools that "feed" into these campuses will themselves be the site of school related programs, such as the youth enrichment program.

It is recommended that the Council earmark \$50,000 to support a summer program at Chavez and Winton Middle Schools. Using these funds, the City would engage HARD and HUSD to deliver these services, with HARD designing and staffing the program and HUSD providing the facility. It should be noted, however, that ultimate program design would be a cooperative effort among the three agencies, with input from the City to be provided by appropriate police department personnel. In addition, input will be solicited from students at both of the middle schools to assure it is responsive to their needs. If funding is approved, these activities will be available this summer.

In summary, staff recommends that the Council appropriate a total of \$150,000 to address the gang problem, with \$100,000 earmarked for the purposes contained in the Police Chief's report, and \$50,000 for activities at the two middle schools noted above.


Jesús Armas, City Manager

Attachment: Police Chief's Report



CITY OF HAYWARD

AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE 04/24/01

AGENDA ITEM _____

WORK SESSION ITEM _____

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Chief of Police

SUBJECT: Gangs and Youth Violence

On March 20, 2001, the City Council reviewed a report outlining ongoing problems in the City pertaining to gangs and youth violence. The report provided statistics depicting that between July 2000 and February 2001 more than 70 serious gang related crimes had been reported to the police, which included four homicides, 30 felony assaults and 12 incidents of shots being fired at residences or vehicles. During this period over 80% of the gang related crimes reported to police involved the use of a firearm. Information provided indicated that gang activity that was once concentrated in just several areas of our city had virtually expanded citywide. With the Council's concurrence staff indicated it would return to Council within 30 days with a plan to address this very serious problem.

The proposed plan consists of a comprehensive multidisciplinary approach to address gangs and youth violence. It contains components that are both short and long term. The plan involves the Hayward Police Department, the community, as well as other outside agencies and resources. The full implementation of this plan will require that additional funds be allocated. The following are the components of the proposed plan:

- 1. Enforcement:** Enforcement is a very critical component of this plan. Statistics consistently support the concept that when more police are assigned specifically to gang problems, the problems quickly decline. This is a short-term solution; however; it is a very effective means to curtail gang violence. Overtime is currently being utilized to bolster the Special Duty Unit (SDU), which is the primary unit responsible for addressing the gang problem.

As we continue our enforcement efforts during this volatile time, we will continue staffing SDU seven days a week and increase the number of officers assigned to the unit on the weekends. It will be impossible to sustain our current level of enforcement on an overtime basis, while staying within our current budget restraints, therefore; we are requesting that supplemental funds in the amount of \$50,000 be appropriated for this purpose. Our current plan consists of staffing SDU with five officers Monday thru Thursday and seven officers Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Additionally, we will enlist the assistance of the Alameda County Gang Task Force as often as possible, and we will work with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) to seek Trigger Lock prosecution on all gang related gun cases whenever applicable.

2. **Counselor (Youth and Family Services Bureau):** We recommend that a part-time counselor be hired through the Youth and Family Services Bureau to work specifically with youth at risk, gang members and parents. This counselor would be tied directly to the Special Duty Unit so intervention and counseling could be interjected immediately. The counselor would also be available to contact parents and intervene on a family level when applicable. This position would be maintained at least until the end of this summer, at a cost of \$20,000.
3. **Prevention and Intervention:** The Gang Prevention Officer has been very effective in combating gang problems. This officer, who is an expert in gangs, works closely with the Hayward Unified School District, providing gang presentations to teachers and administrators. He also works closely with families and parents in recognizing the early warning signs of gang involvement risk, as well as intervening in situations where youth have already become entrenched in gangs. Additionally, this officer educates, mentors and assists youth and other community members in the actual dangers of gang affiliation.

We are recommending that one additional officer at a cost be assigned as a gang prevention officer. This will be staffed on an overtime basis at a cost of \$10,000. This additional position will be utilized through the end of the school year. If an additional officer were added, prevention and intervention efforts could be increased significantly, and the Youth Collaborative could be expanded and improved. These officers could also work with the Employment Development Department to assist youth at risk in obtaining employment opportunities. Additionally, these officers would work with the local colleges and vocational institutions in seeking educational opportunities for youth at risk.

In addition to these efforts the Hayward Police Department will be exploring the feasibility of developing a program similar to the "Drug Court" program. This would provide a means to track the activity of juveniles on probation for gang offenses or violent crimes. Youth who choose to engage in violent behavior or continue to associate with known gang members would be held accountable for their actions. We will be working closely with the Probation Department in an attempt to develop this program.

4. **Truancy and Curfew Patrols:** Truancy patrols can be conducted with existing resources from the Patrol and Youth and Family Services Bureaus. Truancy patrols are very important because youth who fail to attend school are often those who are either involved in gang activity or those who become victims.

Curfew patrols are also very effective; however, require an extensive amount of staffing. Each curfew patrol requires four counselors, one supervisor and at least six police officers for a minimum of six hours. During these curfew patrols, once officers have confirmed that a violation has occurred, parents are contacted and counselors become involved. The contact becomes an excellent means for early intervention to begin.

At least three curfew and truancy patrols should be conducted between April and July. These patrols will occur in neighborhoods, where gang activity and youth violence are most likely to occur. The curfew patrols would be accomplished through the use of overtime, at a cost of \$10,000.

5. **Gun Exchange:** The Hayward Police Department has held several community gun exchanges in the past. These exchanges have been very successful and generally result in taking more than 200 guns off of the streets of Hayward. Another exchange is scheduled for April 28, 2001. "Crime Stoppers" and "Hayward Neighborhood Alert" are sponsoring this exchange. We are recommending that the City sponsor one additional gun exchange to be held in June 2001, and earmark \$10,000 for this purpose.

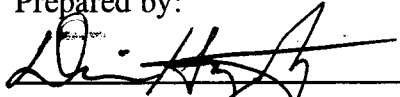
CONCLUSION:

Education must continue at several levels. The community meetings that have begun must be completed, and follow up meetings must be scheduled. It is very important that community leaders and community members remain engaged and become part of the solution. Additionally, the scheduled Youth Collaborative workshops must be completed and eventually expanded. Youth and adults must be part of the long-term problem solving strategy.

Additionally we will remain very involved in the Parent Academy, which is an ongoing effort facilitated by personnel from the Healthy Start Program. The Police Department provides educational information for parents in each of these academies on how to recognize the warning signs of gang involvement and what to do once a child becomes involved in a gang.

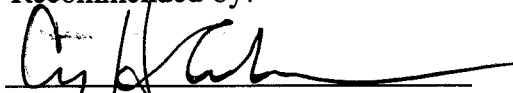
It is necessary to implement both short-term and long-term strategies to address this very serious problem. Enhanced efforts will include expansion in the areas of intervention, prevention and enforcement, as well as involving other applicable agencies. The work done to this point has been very good, however, more needs to be done. The proposed plan involves a comprehensive multidisciplinary approach towards solving this problem. The additional funds that are being requested will allow the police department to enhance existing programs and to implement the proposed plan.

Prepared by:

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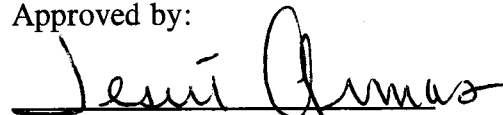
Dennis Houghtelling, Deputy Chief

Recommended by:

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Craig Calhoun, Chief of Police

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jesús Armas", written over a horizontal line.

Jesús Armas, City Manager

DRAFT

HAYWARD CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____

Introduced by Council Member _____

**RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION 00-087, AS
AMENDED, THE BUDGET RESOLUTION FOR FISCAL
YEAR 2000-2001, RELATING TO A SUPPLEMENTAL
APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS TO THE YOUTH AND
GANG VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2001, the Police Department presented a report to the City Council outlining ongoing problems in the City of Hayward pertaining to gangs and youth violence and Council requested the Police Department to return within 30 days with a plan to address the problem; and

WHEREAS, the Police Department has proposed a plan that consists of a comprehensive multidisciplinary approach to address gangs and youth violence involving the Hayward Police Department, the community, as well as other outside agencies and resources; and

WHEREAS, to enhance existing programs and implement the proposed plan, allocation of a supplemental appropriation of \$150,000 is necessary to allow the implementation of both short-term and long-term strategies to address this very serious problem.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Hayward that Resolution No. 00-087, as amended, the Budget Resolution for fiscal year 2000-2001, is hereby amended by approving allocation of a supplemental appropriation of \$100,000 to the Police Department and \$50,000 to non-departmental, to enhance resources so that efforts can be increased to reduce gang problems and youth violence in the City of Hayward.

IN COUNCIL, HAYWARD, CALIFORNIA _____, 2001.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk of the City of Hayward

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney of the City of Hayward